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REPORTS

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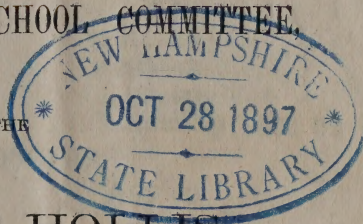
AUDITORS,

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,

AND OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE



TOWN OF HOLLIS,

FOR THE

Year Ending Feb. 26, 1870.

NASHUA:

B. B. & F. P. WHITTEMORE, PRINTERS.
1870.

APPENDICES

OF THE REPORT

OF THE COMMISSIONERS

OF THE LAND OFFICE

IN THE YEAR 1870

1871

AUDITORS' REPORT.

Balance in favor of town, Feb. 23d,	
1869,	\$1875 88
Amount of taxes assessed April 1, 1869,	8881 65
J. E. Smith, for loam,	4 00
J. C. Hildreth, use of town hall,	10 00
Selectmen, for plank,	6 50
Moses Wood, "	5 00
Noah Johnson, highway tax,	2 74
Savings bank tax,	1071 42
Railroad tax,	980 13
Literary fund,	58 20
	<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: 0;"/> \$12895 52

TOWN OFFICERS.

John Woods,	1st Selectman,	\$65 00
F. A. Wood,	2d "	65 00
Geo. Moore,	3d "	65 00
William A. Trow,	sexton,	130 00
E. T. Wheeler,	town clerk,	20 00
H. W. Willoughby,	superintending	
school committee 1868,		60 00
C. B. Richardson,	town treasurer,	20 00
Isaac Hardy,	collector,	75 00
George Moore,	sexton,	10 00
William A. Colburn,	" 1868,	4 00
Isaac Fletcher,	overseer of poor,	25 00
" " " "	1868,	10 00
Warren K. Lovejoy,	" " 1869,	12 00
J. E. Smith,	auditor 1869,	5 00
F. A. Wood,		5 00
		<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: 0;"/> \$571 00

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

Dist. 1, Isaac Vandyke,	\$161 74
" 2, Benjamin F. Pool,	31 85
" 3, Charles Hale,	52 27
" 4, Warren K. Lovejoy,	68 47
" 5, Charles A. Hale,	40 00
" 6, Luther Lawrence,	43 76
" 7, Samuel Fox,	36 74
" 8, George H. Murray,	31 91
" 9,	
" 10, Charles S. Spaulding,	41 25
" 11, Henry G. Cameron,	25 00
" 12, George H. Bartemus,	41 96
" 13, Ambrose H. Wood,	57 12
" 14, Noah Hardy,	18 00
	<hr/>
	\$650 07

WINTER SCHOOLS.

Dist. 1, Isaac Vandyke,	\$139 41
" 2, Benjamin F. Pool,	75 00
" 3, Charles Hale,	42 88
" 4, Warren K. Lovejoy,	90 00
" 5, Charles A. Hale,	89 48
" 6, Luther Lawrence,	78 00
" 7, Samuel W. Fox,	80 00
" 8, George H. Murray,	52 00
" 9, Enoch J. Colburn,	74 68
" 10, Charles S. Spalding,	50 00
" 11, Henry E. Cameron,	58 70
" 12, George H. Bartemus,	45 00
" 13, Ambrose H. Wood,	72 00
" 14, Noah Hardy,	57 75
No. 2, Luther Dow, winter school 1869,	93 00
	<hr/>
	\$1097 90

RUNNELLS' BRIDGE.

Sargent & Cross, lumber,	\$141 12
Charles H. Lund, labor,	14 00
Blood & Wilson, lumber,	131 65
Charles A. Read, freight,	6 40
J. H. Lawrence, labor,	8 00
Barr & Co., spikes,	9 12

Edward K. Read, labor,	4 00	
A. H. Wood, paid for lumber,	6 24	
C. S. Runnels, labor and lumber,	40 40	
A. H. Wood, labor,	22 50	
Isaac Hardy, "	17 50	
C. H. Worcester, lumber,	101 52	
	<hr/>	\$502 45
Witch Brook Bridge,	60 60	
Spruce Swamp Bridge,	30 75	
Daniel Bailey, repairing bridges,	6 90	
Samuel Hayden, " "	7 36	
	<hr/>	\$105 61

REPAIRING HIGHWAYS.

Repairing Highway between meeting house and pump,	178 50	
Edward J. Patch,	8 00	
Albert J. Farley,	21 00	
Frederick A. Wood,	4 00	
Granville P. Patch,	87 50	
Timothy Hodgman,	19 01	
Daniel Bailey,	31 32	
John S. Haywood,	1 58	
John Woods,	23 42	
George Moore,	2 79	
	<hr/>	\$377 12

WINTER ROADS.

Charles S. Spalding,	14 08	
Lot Moor,	21 74	
Horace Rideout,	27 33	
Albert J. Farley, 1867,	5 37	
George S. Hull, 1868—9,	6 20	
John L. Pool, 1867,	23 62	
" " 1868,	8 17	
Thomas M. Stearns, 1868,	6 50	
Theodore Wheeler, "	13 27	
Luther Dow,	9 67	
David N. Hayden,	5 66	
Abel Colburn,	17 25	
Edward J. Patch, 1869—70,	15 67	
Samuel Hayden,	4 20	

Henry N. Smith,	8 58	
S. M. Spalding,	10 31	
Leonard Blood,	16 75	
W. H. Rideout,	15 33	
Isaac Vandyke,	11 00	
John Farley,	6 75	
Martin O'Neil,	14 82	
Truman Hurd,	1 33	
George Moore,	11 25	
James Ball,	4 75	
	<hr/>	\$279 60

ERROR IN TAXES.

Eben S. Bowditch,	94	
John Twiss, for 1868,	2 33	
Benjamin Wheeler,	4 10	
Stephen Lovejoy,	2 33	
Timothy French,	2 18	
Lucy Cutter,	17 05	
A. H. Wood,	7 25	
Josiah N. Hayden,	7 25	
Henry Blood,	1 00	
Jeremiah Woods,	1 45	
	<hr/>	\$45 88

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Isaac Hardy Collector 1869.

Mills Marcy,	2 18	
Albert Green,	2 18	
Susan Proctor,	2 90	
Thomas Handley,	2 90	
Catherine Woods	4 64	
	<hr/>	\$14 80

Ai Colburn Collector 1867.

William Farley,	3 36	
Henry Worcester,	3 36	
Susan Proctor,	2 80	
Thomas H. Green,	3 36	
Thomas M. Stearns,	12 15	
Joseph B. Parker, 1868,	2 33	
Susan Proctor,	3 10	
Hannah Willoby,	3 10	

Thomas H. Green,	2 33	
Franklin C. Burge,	2 33	
James T. Willoby,	16 74	
David T. Roby,	2 33	
	<hr/>	\$57 29
Joseph Patch, collector for '62-3-4,	38 43	
	<hr/>	\$38 43

A. H. Wood, Collector for 1866.

Thomas M. Stearns,	13 39	
Henry Worcester,	3 60	
	<hr/>	\$16 99

NON RESIDENT HIGHWAY TAX.

John Farley,	95	
Isaac Hardy,	8 31	
Thomas M. Stearns, 1863,	2 10	
Jesse A. Hardy, "	2 50	
William Farley,	1 60	
Martin O'Neil, "	10 29	
E. J. Patch, 1869,	1 63	
A. D. Marshall,	7 20	
	<hr/>	\$34 58

MISCELLANEOUS.

B. B. & F. P. Whittemore, printing reports,	18 00	
H. W. Willoughby, return of certificates of births and deaths,	2 50	
Nathan Willoughby, repairing fence at cemetery,	9 70	
James E. Hildreth, guide boards,	20 00	
Moore & Berry, printing school reports, 1868,	10 50	
Nathan Willoughby, pump tub and plat- form,	16 32	
N. P. Greene, books and stationery,	4 64	
Isaac Hardy, expenses to Concord,	5 00	
C. S. Runnells, putting up guide boards and posts,	1 50	
James C. Hildreth, taking care of town hall,	10 00	
C. B. Richardson, repairing bell wheel,	4 00	
Joseph Gates, ringing bell,	45 00	
John Woods, sheep killed by dogs,	3 50	
C. B. Richardson, use of money,	2 38	
	<hr/>	\$153 04

SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

Warren K. Lovejoy,	218 71	
Isaac Fletcher.	175 00	
	<hr/>	\$393 71

ENDORSEMENTS ON NOTES.

Eunice B. Hardy,	63 00	
Sybil Wheeler,	284 40	
James Hardy,	900 00	
Philanthropic society,	33 00	
	<hr/>	\$1020 40

NOTES PAID.

John Perkins, and interest,	393 09	
Timothy E. Flagg, "	219 41	
B. L. Farley, as executor,	291 93	
Enoch Farley, Adm'r. of estate of Joseph Buss,	319 70	
	<hr/>	\$1224 13

PAYMENTS.

Luther Dow, winter schools, 1868,	93 00	
Summer Schools,	650 07	
Winter Schools,	1004 90	
Runnells bridge,	502 45	
Other bridges,	105 61	
Repairing highways,	377 12	
Winter roads,	279 60	
Error in taxes,	45 88	
Abatement of taxes.		
Isaac Hardy, Collector,	14 80	
Al Colburn, "	57 29	
Joseph Patch, "	38 43	
A. H. Wood, "	16 99	
Non-resident highway tax,	34 58	
Miscellaneous,	153 04	
Support of paupers,	393 71	
Endorsements on notes,	1020 40	
Notes paid,	1224 13	
Town officers,	571 00	
State tax,	3492 00	
County tax,	979 01	
	<hr/>	\$11054 01

STATE OF THE TREASURY.

Amount of notes against the town.	9619 72	
Summer schools,	511 48	
Orders drawn not paid,	73 48	
Other liabilities,	100 00	
	<u> </u>	\$10304 78

ASSETS.

Sate bounty,	3600 00	
United States bounty,	2100 00	
Isaac Hardy, collector 1869,	844 33	
Ai Colburn, " 1867-68,	466 36	
Ebenezer Baldwin, " 1865,	200 00	
Cash in treasury,	330 82	
	<u> </u>	\$7541 51
Present indebtedness of the town,		\$2763 27

Ai Colburn not having settled with the treasurer, we are unable to state the amount of interest due from him.

Note of Benjamin Farley paid, not reported last year, \$76 80

CHARLES W. HARDY, }
JOSEPH E. SMITH, } Auditors.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

Received of the town,	\$393 71
“ “ county,	36 87
“ “ old board of Overseers,	7 78
“ “ Mrs. Sawtelle, Guardian of Frank D. and Abby N. Farley,	40 00
“ Money left by Jonas Blood,	6 96
“ Income of Jonas Blood's place,	35 00
	<hr/> 520 32
Due from county, funeral expenses of Jonas Blood,	16 00

Which we account for as follows :

For support of Reuben Hardy family,	107 35
Paid Charles Hale for adopting Fletcher child,	75 00
Paid H. B. Atherton, making out petition,	1 50
“ funeral expenses of Jonas Blood,	16 00
“ for the support of Jonas Blood's family,	124 21
“ Dr. Willoughby, for medical atten- dance on Jonas Blood's family,	36 00
“ Dr. Porter for medical attendance on T. M. Stearns family,	19 00
“ for boarding and clothing Frank D. Farley,	84 25
“ for boarding and clothing Abby N. Farley,	47 21
“ D. J. Moor, for the support of his mother,	10 00
	<hr/> \$520 32

ISAAC FLETCHER, } Overseers of
 WARREN K. LOVEJOY, } the Poor.

SCHOOL REPORT.

Many of our schools close, but a short time before Town Meeting; consequently, the school committee is obliged to make a very brief report, or run the risk of not having it printed soon enough to be of any practical use. For this reason, I shall, in addition to the statistical report, simply mention a few of the principal causes, which operate to prevent the success of our schools.

The great number of school Districts in town is evidently *one* of the chief causes of our difficulty, and seems to be the *source* of many others. When the Districts were first formed, there may have been some plausible reason for having so many. The method of teaching was then different from the present system, and there were about twice as many children to attend school as at present. Now, many of the schools are so small, that it is almost impossible to have any classification of the pupils; the teacher imparts his instruction, mostly, to each pupil separately, occupying as much time with each, as would be required to instruct a class of twenty in a large school; to add to the difficulty, as there is no classification in the school, each scholar brings whatever text book, chance may place in his way, or his fancy or his caprice may suggest, regardless of its usefulness and the Law respecting it; hence we have about twice as many recitations daily, as there are pupils in school, and a great variety of text books, some old, some new, some good and some poor or useless, books, which were never legally introduced. It is impossible to have any system or order in regard to the studies to be pursued. One will study Algebra, another Natural Philosophy or Astronomy, before either is sufficiently acquainted with Geography, Grammar or Arithmetic. The pupil learns nothing so thoroughly as to make it practical. He cannot understand what he is studying, therefore he loses his interest in his studies and in the school; the more advanced scholars leave, seeking, at great expense, to be better taught in some other place, and the teacher, seeing so little ac-

accomplished, loses *his* interest also. In such schools, there can be no emulation, and but little to excite the ambition or call forth the latent energies of the pupil. There is not only a loss of valuable time, but a bad influence is exerted on the character of the child, an influence, which does not cease with his childhood, but which grows with his growth, and increases with his strength, inflicting upon him an injury, for which there is no antidote.

I have mentioned these obstacles to the improvement of our schools, for a special purpose, viz : to call attention to the accompanying Report of the Committee on school Districts. That committee, in drawing up their report, had two principal objects in view, first to reduce the number of Districts, and secondly to bring so many scholars together in the centre District, that we could have a good graded school. It is essentially the plan, which Mr. Day recommended ; and I believe it would, when fairly in operation, relieve us of our worst difficulties, and eventually give better satisfaction and be more economical than any other plan, which has been proposed. It is true, that many children would have a greater distance to travel in going to school, yet when their parents consider that they might learn twice as much in the same time and at the same cost, they certainly ought to be satisfied.

Our schools are supported at an annual cost of about two thousand dollars ; enough, I think, with proper management, to support good schools ; if not, then let us raise more, and use more economy in its expenditures, lest our standard of education fall below that in the neighboring towns. Those who have carefully considered the subject, are very unanimous in their belief, that nearly twice as much might be accomplished with the same amount of money. The subject is certainly deserving of careful consideration, as one, upon which the honor, respectability and well being of the community, in a great measure, depend.

One might perhaps infer from what has been said, that our schools, this year, have been poorer than usual. This is not however the case. The scholars have done fully as well as in years past, and the teachers, as a body, deserve great credit for accomplishing as much as they have, under such disadvantageous circumstances. Several of our teachers were of a higher grade than usual ; a few were of a *very* low grade ; and such we must always expect to have, with our present system, or rather want of system.

It is an accepted maxim, that without good discipline, there cannot be a good school. Judging by this rule, the schools during the winter term, in Districts 2 and 7, were failures. The children were a "law unto themselves," and but little was accomplished.

ed in the right direction. Childhood and youth is the season, when the character is most easily impressed, and habits are then acquired, which frequently shape the character of the individual for life. If *good* habits are not acquired, bad ones will be. Habits of regularity and punctuality, of being orderly and subject to law and just discipline, may be of more value to children, in after life, than many things, which they learn from books.

In District No. 3, the teacher seemed to take little interest in her school, and the inhabitants of the District still less. The pupils did not accomplish much; no one seemed to expect they would, they were so few. So I suppose no one was disappointed. There may however be some hope for the school, in future, as there were five scholars, an average attendance, residing in the District, this year, which is one more than last year.

During the past year, there have been 271 different scholars—146 boys and 125 girls attending our district schools, with an average attendance of 193. Three male and seventeen female teachers have been employed, at an average pay of \$42 per month for the male and \$23.75 for the female teachers. The whole amount paid for the support of schools has been \$1648.20 derived from the following sources, viz: \$1,455 from town tax; \$58.20 from the literary fund; and \$135 contributed in board and fuel. Making an average amount to each scholar of \$6.08, or to each scholar an average attendance of \$8.54.

The aggregate number of weeks, which the schools have been in session has been 262—129 in summer, and 133 in winter; average length in weeks, 19. The Superintending School Committee has made 64 visits to the schools; the Prudential Committee, 17; other citizens, 436.

H. W. WILLOUGHBY, S. S. Committee.

Hollis, March 8th, 1870.

NAMES OF PUPILS NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY:

SUMMER TERM.—Willie W. Pierce, Addie Pierce, Eldridge Jewett, Nellie Turner, Minnie Turner, Hattie M. Wheeler, Marietta Dow, Laura D. Wheeler, Rosa M. Patch, Mary E. Patch, Mary E. Wood, Abbie E. Wheeler, Calvin R. Wood, Oseela G. Patch, Edgar J. Patch, Alice H. Hardy, Nellie J. Lovejoy, Myra Wheeler, Frank Lovejoy, Almon Wheeler, Martha Shedd, Willie E. Colburn, Ardell Colburn, Ida F. Colburn, Charlie Colburn, Fannie Wright, Abbie Read, Abbie Fox, Hattie E. Farley, Hattie A. Fletcher, Nellie J. Fletcher, Alma F. Smith, Clara E. Colburn, Frank J. Colburn, Ella E. Colburn, Ella L. Colburn, Emma F. Colburn, Charles F. Hayden, Ira A. Hayden, Almon Colburn, Clara Skelton, Lizzie Skelton, Mary Skelton, Hattie Moore, Nellie Moore, Nellie Cameron, Abbie Cameron, Lizzie Farley, Eva M. Rideout, Annie M. Rideout, Ora A. Shattuck, Nellie M. Truel, John H. Rideout, Nellie F. Smith, Margaret Connor, Fred. C. Willoby, Clara E. Stearns, Ada M. Bills, Nellie M. Bills, Lizzie M. Hardy, Nellie A. Patch, Frank N. Hardy, James W. Bills, Herbert T. Patch.

WINTER TERM.—Sarah E. Stickney, Martha E. Shedd, Lucy A. Stickney, Katie J. Sexton, Mary C. Richardson, Carrie Hurd, Minnie E. Austin, Joseph R. Smith, Monroe Hurd, John F. Wheeler, Charles E. Gates, W. J. Gates, Charles L. Quaid, Fred. M. Hayden, Addie F. Pierce, Willie W. Pierce, Charles M. Blood, Eldridge Jewett, Fred. C. Blood, Marietta Dow, Rosa M. Patch, Mary E. Patch, Georgianna Hall, Mary E. Wood, Abbie E. Wheeler, Laura D. Wheeler, Hattie M. Wheeler, Charles H. Colburn, Melvin N. Dow, Frank P. Dow, Judson H. Duncklee, Edgar J. Patch, Oseela G. Patch, Calvin R. Wood, Nellie Lovejoy, Frank Lovejoy, Willie Patch, Ardell Colburn, Ida F. Colburn, Willie E. Colburn, Alphonso Colburn, Charlie Colburn, Perley Powers, Llewelyn Powers, Alma L. Smith, Dora L. Mooar, James H. Duncklee, Walter Mooar, Fred. A. Patch, Frank J. Colburn, Charles F. Hayden, Eva M. Rideout, Anna M. Rideout, Ora A. Shattuck, Nellie M. Truell, John H. Rideout, Ernest V. Shattuck, Henry Patch, George Hardy, Willie Skelton, Wilbert Cameron, Nellie Cameron, Abbie Cameron, Josie Hale, Clara Skelton, Lizzie Skelton, Mary Skelton, Mary Patch, Hattie Moore, Ella A. Willoughby, Mary S. Perkins, Charles F. Perkins, George F. Marsh, Fred C. Willoby, Charles F. Tenney, Charles A. Bills, James W. Bills, Frank N. Hardy, Herbert T. Patch, Ada M. Bills, Nellie M. Bills, Lizzie M. Hardy.

REPORT ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

During the consideration of the Report of the Superintending School Committee, March 10, 1869, on motion of Rev. P. B. Day, it was voted: To instruct the Selectmen and Superintending School Committee, to devise some plan for redistricting the Town and report the same to the next annual March Meeting. (*Vide Town Records.*)

In compliance with the above instruction, we carefully considered the existing system, its advantages and disadvantages, and came to the conclusion, which *all*, who have carefully considered the subject, have come to, viz: That there are a great many disadvantages, and that there is a great want of economy in having so many School Districts, and that a radical change in our system is imperatively demanded.

We also considered the Report of a Committee, appointed for a similar purpose, March, 1867. This Committee, substantially, recommended the division of the Town into eight School Districts, each of which would contain about the same number of scholars. The plan proposed seems quite feasible, and could not, we think, be much improved, if the principal object is to divide the Town into School Districts of nearly equal size, containing nearly the same number of scholars. But objections have been urged against the plan, the principal of which are, the large number of new School Houses, which would be required, and the constant changes in respect to numbers, which is taking place in most of the Districts. We do not pretend to decide whether these objections are well founded. Plausible objections might, perhaps, be made to any plan, which could be proposed. Under these circumstances, we have decided to report a plan, which shall, at least, have the merit of being free from *these* objections. It is briefly as follows, viz: To enlarge District No. 1, so as to include all of District No. 9—all of District No. 13, except the homestead of Samuel Fletcher—all of District No. 5 on the Nashua road west of Solon Hardy's, and on the Pine Hill road, west of Dea. J. D. Hill's, and that part of District No. 14, south of Benjamin Whiting's.

To annex the homesteads of Samuel Fletcher and Isaac Blood to District No. 6.

To annex the remainder of District No. 2 to District No. 7.

To annex District No. 3, and the remainder of District No. 5 to District No. 12.

To annex the remainder of District No. 14 to District No. 11.

To annex all of District No. 10 to District No. 4.

District No. 8 would remain as it is.

It will be perceived, that we should thus have but 7 School Dis-

tricts in the Town, in none of which would any pupil have a greater distance to travel than some now have. No new School Houses would be immediately required, except in District No. 1, where a new one is absolutely necessary, even with the present arrangement. Where two Districts are united, one of the two Houses will generally be sufficient for the present, or they might be used alternately until the best house should need repairs; when, without great expense, it could be moved to such more central position, as the District might choose.

In District No. 1, there would be some over one hundred scholars, so that, if the Town should not establish a High School, the District could legally establish one, or have a graded school; whichever they might prefer.

We have only given a brief outline of the plan, believing it would subserve the purpose for which it was intended, better than a more elaborate one.

JOHN WOODS,	} Selectmen
FREDERICK A. WOOD,	
GEORGE MOORE,	
	} of
	} Hollis.

H. W. WILLOUGHBY, Superintending School Com.

Hollis, March 8, 1870.